## Case 1:20-mc-00212-AJN Document 10 Filed 05/23/20 Page 1 of 2

## CLEARY GOTTLIEB STEEN & HAMILTON LLP

One Liberty Plaza New York, NY 10006-1470 T: +1 212 225 2000 F: +1 212 225 3999

clearygottlieb.com

WASHINGTON, D.C. · PARIS · BRUSSELS · LONDON · MOSCOW FRANKFURT · COLOGNE · ROME · MILAN · HONG KONG BEILING · BUENOS AIRES · SÃO PAULO · ABUDHABI · SEOUL

> D: +1 212-225-2086 jrosenthal@cgsh.com

THOMAS J. MOLONEY
RICHARD S. LINCER
JAMES A. DUNCAN
STEVEN M. LOEB
CRAIGE BROOM
RICHARD S. RECONDER
RICHARD S. RECONDER
RICHARD J. COOPER
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MICHAEL A. GERSTENZANG
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FRANCESCO L. CESTERO
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G. CONTROLO
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JAMES E. LANGSTON
JAMES E. LANGSTON
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JAMES E.

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JUDITH KASSEL
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LUFT
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ELANAS. BRONSON

RAHUL MUKHI

LOUISE M. PARENT

May 23, 2020

## VIA ECF

The Honorable Alison J. Nathan
United States District Judge
United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
Daniel Patrick Moynihan Courthouse
500 Pearl Street
New York, NY 10007

Re: In re Application of Benjamin Steinmetz for an Order to Take Discovery from Vale S.A., Vale Americas Inc., Rio Tinto PLC, and Rio Tinto Limited Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1782, 20-mc-212-AJN (S.D.N.Y.)

Dear Judge Nathan:

We write on behalf of Vale S.A. and Vale Americas Inc. (collectively, "<u>Vale</u>") in connection with the above-referenced application of Benjamin Steinmetz ("<u>Steinmetz</u>") to conduct discovery for use in foreign proceedings pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1782 (the "<u>Application</u>").

We have had back-and-forth communications with Steinmetz's counsel with regard to service of process, as well as Vale's need to promptly obtain all of the recordings referenced in the Yanus Declaration that accompanied the Application since Mr. Yanus does not claim to have participated in any of the conversations he purports to quote at length in his declaration. Vale intends to respond to the Application (which does not seek *ex parte* relief) and address, among other things, Steinmetz's material misstatements of fact and law with respect to both the statutory requirements and discretionary factors under *Intel Corp. v. Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*, 542 U.S. 241 (2004). We will also address the smokescreen he attempts to create through the irrelevant, and potentially illegal, recordings made by the notorious Black Cube.

Hon. Alison J. Nathan, p. 2

We anticipate that after the issues concerning service and disclosure of the recordings are resolved, we will be able to reach agreement with Steinmetz's counsel on a proposed briefing schedule to present for the Court's approval. Should we be unable to do so, we will promptly advise Your Honor.

Thank you for Your Honor's consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jeffrey A. Rosenthal
Jeffrey A. Rosenthal

cc: Michael S. Kim, Esq.
Josef M. Klazen, Esq.
Robin Rathmell, Esq.
Victoria R. Morris, Esq.
Carolina Leung, Esq.